WHAT A FABULOUS MORNING!
NOW THEN..
FOLLOWING MY NORMAL ROUTINE. I SHOULD DO SOME MORNING TRAINING AND THEN GET BREAKFAST.
HMM, LOOKS LIKE I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO DO MY TRAINING TODAY..

BUT IT'S NOT TIME TO GET BREAKFAST EITHER, WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
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THAT'S IT!
I CAN JUST DO SOME MORNING EXERCISE INSTEAD!!
HEHEHE!
THIS TAKES ME BACK TO MY SUMMER VACATION.
♪
I WOULD ALWAYS COLLECT STAMPS BACK THEN.
AND THOSE MANAGEED TO COLLECT ALL THE STAMPS BEFORE SCHOOL STARTED WOULD BECOME HEROES.

魔拳のデイドリーマー
第7話
原作：西和尚／漫画：村松麻由

"I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. BUT SELL THE STUFF YOURSELF TOMORROW, OKAY?"

OH! WHY AREN'T YOU A SHARP ONE!
YOU MAY BELIEVE OTHERWISE, BUT I'M ACTUALLY QUITE THE MORNING PERSON♪
IT'S NORMAL FOR ME TO GET UP FIRST THING WHEN THE SUN RISES AND HEAD OUT TO THE MARKET TO BUY INGREDIENTS, YOU KNOW!
AND THAT ABIDING SPIRIT OF MINE IS THE SECRET TO THE SUPREME QUALITY OF THIS INN.
WOW, HOW HARD-WORKING!
A WILD GIRL. THAT WAS THE IMPRESSION SHE LEFT YESTERDAY.
BUT NOW I SEE HER IN A NEW LIGHT.
SO, MINATO-SAN?
DID YOU HAVE FUN LAST NIGHT? DID YOU??
... I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID.
A GIRL SHOULDN'T BE SAYING THINGS LIKE THAT.
WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

YOU'RE TOO SERIOUS AND BORING.
PEOPLE LIKE YOU ARE UNCOMMON NOWADAYS.
REALLY? I THOUGHT I WAS NORMAL.
NOT EVEN CLOSE!
MALE ADVENTURERS ARE A ROWDY AND SELFISH BUNCH.
Drinking sake early in the morning...
SOME WOULD EVEN SEXUALLY HARASS ME DURING WORK.
BUT I'M USED TO IT NOW.
I DO WANT TO GIVE YOU A WORD OF CAUTION SEEING HOW NICE YOU ARE.
RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN A FEW KIDNAPPERS PRETENDING TO BE FRAIL GIRLS.
DON'T GET TRICKED BY THESE BAD GUYS.
EH? CAN YOU TELL ME MORE?
I'VE HEARD A FEW GIRLS WERE PRETENDING TO FAINT OR BE LOST.
THEY'D TRICK THE KIND GENTLEMAN WHO DECIDE TO HELP THEM AND LURE THEM INTO THEIR TRAP.

NOT ONLY DO THEY STEAL ALL THEIR BELONGINGS
THEY ALSO SELL THE PERSON OFF.
ELK!
NAGA DUNGEON ENTRANCE
EH?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOTHING.
WE WERE JUST WONDERING IF YOU'RE READY.
WE'VE HEARD YOU WERE IN NEED OF MONEY.
BUT DIDN'T THINK IT WAS THIS BAD.
IF WE CAN'T FIND THE TREASURE ROOM, THEN...

I'LL HELP YOU OUT...
BY INTRODUCING YOU TO A RICH MAN TO MARRY.
...I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
"THIEF" RANK E
OH, HOW RARE.
YOU USED TO ALWAYS FLAT OUT REJECT ME
WHOA, REALLY? ELK!
IF YOU'RE REALLY SELLING YOURSELF, YOU GOTTA TELL ME!!
I'LL BE SURE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR BUSINESS!
"SWORDSMAN" RANK D
HEHE... I WAS JUST KIDDING..
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE HEAD IN.
"MAGICIAN" RANK E

HEY, ELK!
I HAVE A PRETTY SWEET JOB HERE
IT ALL BEGAN WHILE I WAS WASHING MY FACE THIS MORNING
YOU WENT TO NAGA DUNGEON YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
IT TURNS OUT THAT THE TREASURE ROOM HASN'T BEEN DISCOVERED THERE YET.
TREASURE ROOM!?
YEAH, AND WE ARE GOING TO LOOK FOR IT.
YOU WANT TO JOIN US?

THEN, LET ME GO TELL MINATO ...
THAT'S WHY, ONCE THE ADVENTURERS CATCHES WIND OF A TREASURE ROOM SOMEWHERE, THEY'LL GATHER THEIR PARTY AND TAKE OFF IN SEARCH FOR THE SWEET TREASURES.
WHOEVER FINDS THE TREASURE ROOM FIRST GETS TO KEEP EVERYTHING.
EVEN IF THE INFORMATION IS SOUNDS FISHY OR UNVERIFIED, PEOPLE WILL STILL FLOOD TO IT FOR THAT RARE CHANCE OF IT ACTUALLY BEING TRUE AND STRIKING GOLD.
JUST LIKE MINATO'S HEART...
THE SUNRISE IS BEAUTIFUL...
... OH WELL, HE'S PROBABLY STILL SLEEPING.
LET'S GO.

I WOULD EARN MORE IF I PARTIED UP WITH MINATO IF WE DON'T FIND THE TREASURE ROOM...
BECAUSE THESE GUYS ARE AROUND THE SAME RANK AS ME.
EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T HAVE THE MOST RIGHTEOUS OF PERSONALITIES, THEY ARE STILL TRUSTWORTHY ADVENTURERS.
THEY ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THAT PERVERT LAST TIME!
FIND THE TREASURES WITHOUT RELYING ON MINATO.
BUT I WANT TO...
WELL, WHY NOT JUST TAKE ALL THE MONEY?
I DON'T HAVE IT IN ME TO TRICK SOMEONE SO PURE...!
EVER SINCE THE BEGINNING.
I WAS PLANNING ON BETRAYING MINATO...

WHAT A PLENTIFUL HARVEST, MINATO-SAN!

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE BROUGHT BACK SO MUCH.
WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE
ELK AND I DID THIS TOGETHER.
SO THIS IS HER ACHIEVEMENT AS WELL.

I WON'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT EVER AGAIN!

HEY, RIN-SAN ...
CAN I BUY DUNGEON MAPS HERE?
ABSOLUTELY, YOU CAN BUY IT OVER AT THE COUNTER THERE.
DOES IT ALSO SELL CITY MAPS?
OF COURSE.
OI! YOU ALRIGHT!?

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME!
TCH!
LEAVE THIS SIDE TO ME!

G-GET BACK!
HOLY CRAP!
HOW MANY ARE THERE...

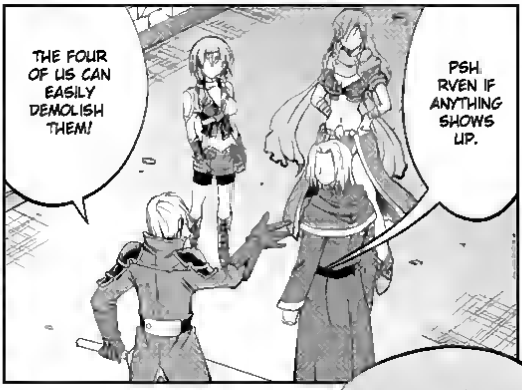
LOOKS LIKE THAT TOOK CARE OF THEM.
DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE THERE'S TOO MANY MONSTERS?
YOU THINK SO TOO?
YEAH ..
MAYBE WE SHOULD HEAD BACK TODAY?

NO...
BUT ...
YOU'RE CHICKENING OUT AL-READY?
WE'VE JUST ARRIVED!
WE STILL HAVEN'T FOUND ANY TREASURES!
HAH!?
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WANTED MONEY THE MOST!!
MAN, NOT YOU TOO, ELK!
IT'S BOTHERING ME AS WELL...
THIS IS DEFINITELY STRANGE ...
BUT I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG.

YEAH. AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, WE CAN ALWAYS RUN.
THIS IS ONLY THE SECOND FLOOR AFTER ALL.

DON'T WORRY.
WE'VE BEEN HERE SO MANY TIMES ALREADY.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

WELL, IF YOU SAY SO ...


THE FOUR OF US CAN EASILY DEMOLISH THEM!
PSH. EVEN IF ANYTHING SHOWS UP.

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DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!
NOTHING BIG WILL SHOW UP IN THIS FLOOR, ANYWAYS.
WAIT. SOMETHING IS COMING ...!
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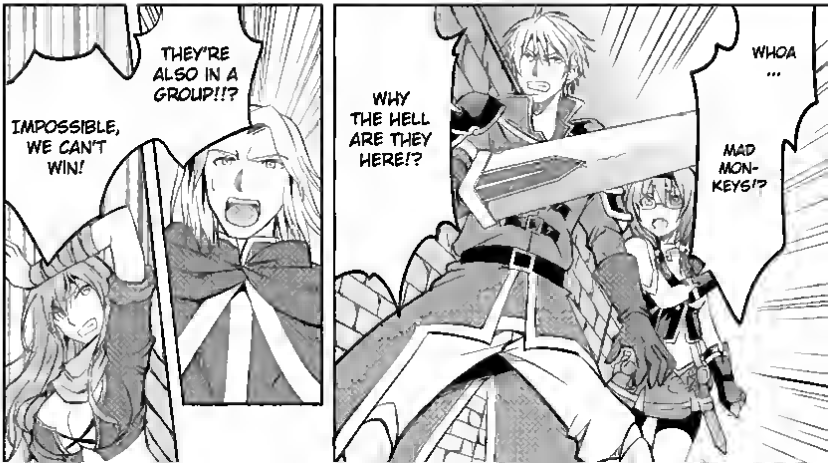
ヒタ ヒタ ヒタ...
AH!
MINATO...
SINCE I WAS WITH YOU THE ENTIRE DAY YESTERDAY...
NOW I'M FEELING A BIT LONELY WITHOUT YOU BY MY SIDE


WHOA ...
MAD MONKEYS!?
WHY THE HELL ARE THEY HERE!?
THEY'RE ALSO IN A GROUP!!?
IMPOSSIBLE, WE CAN'T WIN!

BOOK IT!!
AH!
SO WHY ARE THEY HERE...
THESE GUYS ARE RANKED THE HIGHEST IN THIS DUNGEON. SO THEY SHOULD BE ALL THE WAY AT THE FIFTH FLOOR!
BUT HOW...!?
BUT I GOT SEPARATED FROM THE OTHERS
FINALLY ESCAPED
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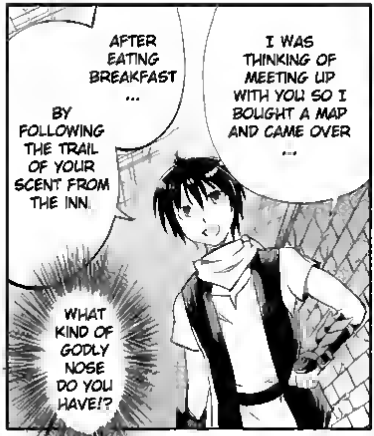
I HAVE TO GET OUT AS FAST AS POSSIBLE ...
THIS DUNGEON ... IS TOO WEIRD
SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY WRONG.
!!!
!

AND WAIT FOR THEM TO LEAVE ...!
I JUST HAVE TO PRAY...
THEY'RE HERE AS WELL...!?
THEY'RE TOTALLY BLOCKING THE EXIT!!
EH ...?
THEY'RE LEAVING ALREADY ...?
I WONDER IF THEY DISCOVERED A NEW PREY?
COULD IT BE ANOTHER ADVENTURER!?
THAT CRY EARLIER...
SORRY, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING
PLEASE FORGIVE ME
OR IS IT ONE OF MY COMPANIONS?

WHAT?
WHAT THE HELL!!?
ELK! I TOOK CARE OF THEM, YOU CAN COME OUT NOW!!


AFTER EATING BREAKFAST ...
BY FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF YOUR SCENT FROM THE INN.
I WAS THINKING OF MEETING UP WITH YOU SO I BOUGHT A MAP AND CAME OVER ...
WHAT KIND OF GODLY NOSE DO YOU HAVE!?

MI... MINATO ...?
WHY ARE YOU HERE...?

TANYA GAVE ME A BENTO ...!
AH SPEAKING OF BREAKFAST ...

HEY, ELK...
I'VE BEEN SAVED ...!
THANKS TO HER BEING ANNOYING AS ALWAYS ...
SO SHE TOLD ME TO DELIVER THIS BENTO TO YOU.
SINCE YOU DIDN'T EAT BREAKFAST BEFORE LEAVING THIS MORNING ...

I REALIZED HOW THIN THESE MONKEYS WERE ...
WHILE I WAS SALVING THE MATERIALS FROM THESE GUYS...
HMM?
... SOMETHING IS INDEED STRANGE ABOUT THIS DUNGEON.
I WONDER IF THIS IS NORMAL.
WELL, YEAH. MAD MONKEYS WERE PRETTY THIN TO BEGIN WITH.
MAYBE SOME OTHER STRONGER MONSTERS TOOK OVER THEIR HOME ...
AND FORCED THEM TO COME TO THIS FLOOR?
AND YOU'RE RIGHT, THEY SHOULDN'T BE THIS THIN.. SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY WRONG.
THESE MAD MONKEYS SHOULDN'T BE AT THIS FLOOR.

SOUND REASONABLE ...
THAT DOES ...
ドドド